

Believe Care Persevere Succeed



Headteacher: Mrs A Armstrong
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Monday 28th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Update

NHS Covid-19 App

You may have seen that the track and trace app has been released and that anyone over the age of 16 is being encouraged to download it. The details are below if you are interested.



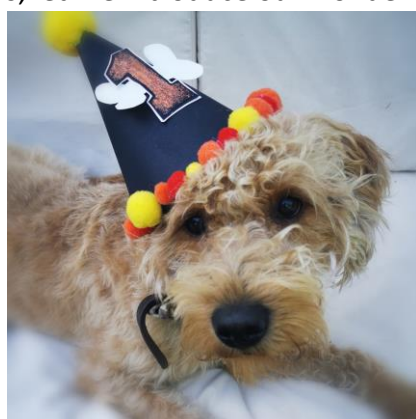
Protect your loved ones. Download the app.

The new NHS COVID-19 app, now available to download for free in England and Wales, is the fastest way to see if you're at risk from coronavirus. The faster you know, the quicker you can alert and protect your loved ones and community.

The app has a number of tools to protect you, including contact tracing, local area alerts and venue check-in. It uses proven technology from Apple and Google, designed to protect every user's privacy.

Colin the Therapy Dog

Your child may have spoken to you about seeing Colin in school this term. For those of you who are wondering who he is, let me introduce our wonderful therapy dog.



Seen here on his first birthday in May, Colin knows us all well as he has been visiting us at BCP since he was a puppy. Our fantastic counsellor, Helena Dolphin, is his proud owner and Colin does a brilliant job of working alongside her to support all our children. He has been so important over the last few weeks in particular as we settle back in to school in these unfamiliar times. Thank you, Helena and Colin, for always making us smile!

Colin had an important assessment today as part of his training and he did very well indeed. We are all very proud of him. Congratulations and well done, Colin!

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Walktober

Abby Vatcher, our Head of Wellbeing, has put together some important information about the annual walking initiative which we hope you will all try to participate in. The full pack will be emailed to you separately.

WALKTOBER - join in, have fun outdoors and feel the benefits.

NEW THIS YEAR - EVEN MORE COMPETITION AND PRIZES TO BE WON!

Walktober follows the Hampshire and the NHS's Five Steps to Wellbeing as evidence suggests that these are the five steps that we can all take to improve our mental wellbeing:

1. Connect 2. Be Active 3. Keep Learning 4. Give to Others 5. Be Mindful

Walktober means pupils, staff and their families finding opportunities to walk and be outside as often as possible: to and from school or work, but also trying to find other opportunities to enjoy spending time outside, with members of your household (or others, whilst social distancing), and encourage and inspire others to do the same. This pack will give you all the information you need to participate and is being shared with you as your school has signed up for this year's challenge. It is packed full of ideas for easy and fun outdoor activities that you can all enjoy together, and many competitions to enter with amazing prizes.

Date for your diary: Walk to school week (October 5-9th)

Each year our school sign up to take part in Walk to school week as part of Walktober. The five-day walking challenge aimed at primary schools is a fun and engaging week-long activity, raising awareness and celebrating walking for all. Pupils will be well on their way to reaching their recommended 60 minutes minimum of physical activity per day before even reaching the school gates! Not only will it set them up for a positive day in the classroom, it will also help create healthy habits for life. Watch out for further details.

School Photographs

The school photographer came in last week and took individual photos of all the children. Due to the current situation, he set up his 'studio' outside on the field in front of the trees and everyone posed outside. The photos have arrived and they look fabulous. After a stage in the office quarantine area, the proof card for the photos taken will be sent home with your child. Due to the current situation, please do not return the completed proof card to us at school if you want to order any prints. Instead, please follow the instructions on the proof card of logging onto the Cardwell & Simon website and entering your unique ordering code for your photos. If you have any difficulty in doing this, please call or email the school office and Helen or Lindsay will be able to assist.

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Foundation Stage were visited by The Newbury Weekly News on the same day to take the new starter photos. The photographer was very skilled in organising informal outdoor shots, socially distanced of course! We are really looking forward to seeing them in the paper and we will let you know when they are published.

Year 6 Hurst Visit

Year 6 had a very successful visit to The Hurst today. The usual arrangements for taster day had to be significantly altered to allow for the current situation and we are very grateful to the staff at The Hurst for accommodating us in the 3 separate bubbles the children are grouped in at BCP. The children walked there and back and were very excited to tell us about their experiences. Our staff were very impressed with their mature, calm and sensible attitude. You did us proud, Year 6. Well done!

School dinners from HC3S

Due to the rise in costs in providing a school meal, please be aware that from 1st November, the charge for a school meal will be £2.50 (was £2.40). Children in Foundation Stage and KS1 will still receive their universal free school meal and if your child was receiving a free school meal due to their family being in receipt of Government benefits, they'll still be eligible for their free meal too.

Taps!

I hadn't anticipated the excitement that some new taps would cause in school! Our younger children have always found the taps in the KS1 toilets tricky to manage independently, so the staff have needed to help them. With the increased frequency of handwashing and the taps becoming harder and harder to operate as they aged and got stuck, their replacement with easy levers has made life so much easier and safer. Thank you, Andy Stott, for working your plumbing magic and making a lot of staff and children very happy!

Thank you for your continued support and feedback, particularly when you are able to tell us about how your children are finding their experiences with all the changes and adjustments we have needed to make.

Respect for our one way system has improved and this is much appreciated.

I hope you all have a good week.

Best wishes to you all.

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'Tomorrow will be a good day.' Colonel Tom Moore

Some superheroes don't wear capes...



...they wear medals

#ThankYouCaptainTomMoore

